

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Applicant responds herein to the Office Action dated May 17, 2006.

Applicant's attorneys appreciate the Examiner's thorough search and examination of the present patent application, allowance of claims 3-10 and 13-21, and the indication that claim 2 is allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. Claims 3-10 and 13-21 were allowed, claims 1, 11 and 12 were rejected and claim 2 was objected to.

In response to the Examiner's objection, Figures 1 and 2 were amended to include the "Prior Art" designation legend.

Claims 1, 11, and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20020105874 to Matsumoto ("Matsumoto").

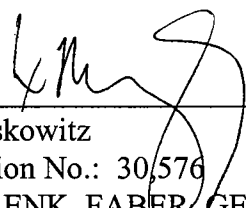
Claim 2 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 2 has been rendered in independent form, and claim 11 now depends on claim 2.

Claims 1 and 12 were canceled.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the application, add claims 2 and 11 to the allowed claims and pass this case to issue.

THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING
SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY
THROUGH THE PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE EFS FILING SYSTEM
on August 9, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,



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